

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification without prejudice as follows:

At page 2, replace paragraph beginning at lines 20 and ending at line 28.

In one aspect of the invention, caller ID data received between bursts 1 and 2 may be re-transmitted between burst 2 and 3. The system of the subject invention is adapted for identifying and connecting the required ports once the caller ID transmission is received, and well before the second ring ~~but~~ burst is sent from the communications provider.

This provides the port connections to be made ~~with~~ while then monitoring for the second ring burst. The caller ID data is then re-framed. Since the required ports are connected, the communication devices on these ports will actually see the second ring burst as a first ring burst and will be ready to receive the caller ID re-transmission and update data accordingly.

At page 3, replace the following paragraphs beginning at line 12 and ending at line 14.

Figure 4 is a high level flowchart for a process of screening calls in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 5 is a data map, showing how the data packet is captured between the first ring burst and second ring burst of second generation caller ID devices; and

At page 11, replace the paragraph beginning a line 7 and ending at line 11, and replace with the following:

Call screening device 104 may also include TIME OFF and TIME ON capability to allow the user to only screen calls during certain times of the day, for example at night when the possibility of receiving unwanted solicitations is much higher. Call screening device 104 may thus be set to screen calls between, for instance, 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to avoid being ~~woken~~ awaken by a wrong number or other unwanted call.

At page 12, replace the paragraph beginning at line 15 and ending at line 22, and replace with the following:

Port field 308b allows the call to ring through to one or more ports within call screening device or one or more remote handsets coupled to call screening device. Certain calling parties may thus be allowed to ring through to all communications devices connected or coupled to call screening device, or to only particular devices. Additionally, port field 308b may optionally

identify a fictitious port for totally blocked calling parties. If the user has a teenager, the CALLER ID information of that teenager's friends may be employed to have incoming calls from those friends ring through only to a remote handset.

At page 12, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 29 and ending on page 13 at line 12 with the following:

Referring to Figure 4, a high level flowchart for a process of screening calls in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention is illustrated. The process begins at step 402, which depicts detection of an incoming call. The process next passes to step 404, which illustrates determining the CALLER ID calling party information associated with the incoming call, and then to step 406, which depicts a determination of whether the call screening function is active. This may involve a comparison on the present time, derived from the CALLER ID information, for example, to the TIME ON and TIME OFF settings. If call screening is not presently active, the process proceeds to step 408, which illustrates allowing the call to ring through on all ports, or as many ports ~~are~~ as designated for no active call screening at the time the incoming call is received. If call screening is active at the time the incoming call is received, however, the process next proceeds to step 410, which depicts looking up the calling party by the CALLER ID name or number, or both, in the allowable calling party database.